

Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

1110 West Washington, Suite 290 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007 • www.azwifa.gov

Date: August 8, 2007

Contact: Veronica Rivera, Communications Director: (602) 364-1236

WIFA Chairman Owens Announces \$1.1 Million Loan to Naco Water Company

PHOENIX- Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona Chairman Steve Owens announced today a \$1.1 million loan to the Naco Water Company to make upgrades in the water delivery system in the border community.

The water company, which serves nearly 1,300 customers, has been operating at only about three-fourths of its capacity because sulfates clog casings in two of its four wells. The money approved by the WIFA board of directors will be used to clean the casings, develop a new water source and complete well site improvements and compliance upgrades.

The project will add a service line connection to the part of the system serving the most heavily populated part of the unincorporated area, located in Cochise County, 5 miles south of Bisbee. The main line on Bisbee Junction Road will be replaced and a distribution line will be added to the Bisbee Junction system.

"We are happy to assist the Naco Water Company address its infrastructure problems and help it better serve the community," said Chairman Owens, who is also director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

WIFA, <u>www.azwifa.gov</u>, provides communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical help needed for basic water infrastructure.